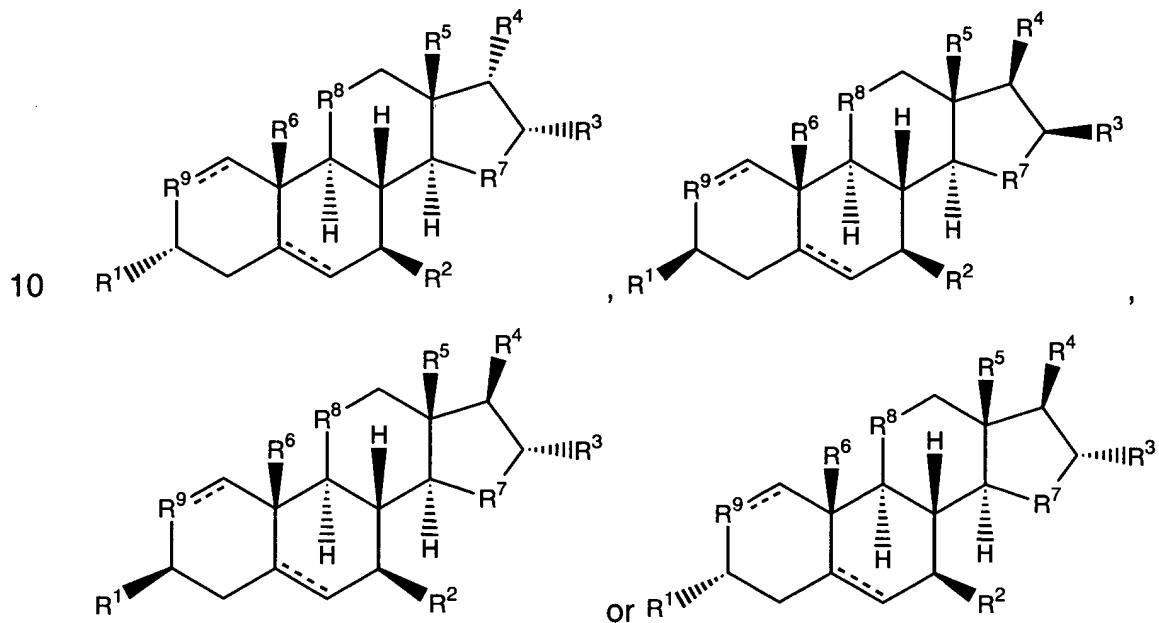


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This list of claims replaces the prior version of claims in the application:

5 Claims 1-49 (canceled)

50 (currently amended): A method to treat or ameliorate an inflammation condition in a subject, comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of a compound having the structure



wherein, the dotted lines are optional double bonds;

R¹ is -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R² is -H, -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R³ is -OH, =O, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R⁴ is -OH, -SH, =S, an ester an ether, a thioester or a thioether;

R⁵ is -CH₃ or -CH₂OH;

R⁶ is -H or -CH₃;

R⁷ is -CH₂- or -CHR¹⁰-;

20 R⁸ is -CH₂-, -O- or -NH-;

R⁹ is -CH₂-, -CHR¹⁰- or -CHR¹⁰-CHR¹⁰- -CHR¹⁰-, -O- or -NH-; and

R^{10} independently are -OH, an ester, an ether, -SH, a thioester, a thioether or a halogen.

Claims 51-53 (canceled)

5

Claim 54 (withdrawn): The method of claim 50 wherein R^1 and R^3 are -OH, R^2 is -H and R^4 is -OH or -SH.

10 Claim 55 (previously presented): The method of claim 50 wherein R^1 , R^3 and R^4 are -OH and R^2 is -H.

Claim 56 (withdrawn): The method of claim 50 wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are -OH.

15 Claim 57 (previously presented): The method of claim 50 wherein the inflammation condition is atopic asthma, allergic respiratory disease, allergic rhinitis, atopic dermatitis, subepithelial fibrosis in airway hyperresponsiveness, chronic sinusitis, perennial allergic rhinitis, allergic bronchopulmonary aspergillosis in cystic fibrosis patients, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, 20 inflammatory bowel disease or fibrosing alveolitis.

Claim 58 (withdrawn): The method of claim 57 wherein R^1 and R^3 are -OH, R^2 is -H and R^4 is -OH or -SH.

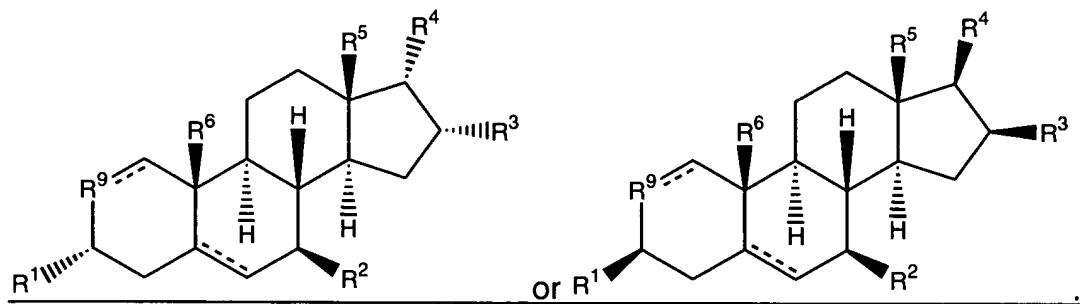
25 Claim 59 (previously presented): The method of claim 57 wherein R^1 , R^3 and R^4 are -OH and R^2 is -H.

Claim 60 (withdrawn): The method of claim 57 wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are -OH.

30

Claim 61 (previously presented): The method of claim 57 wherein the inflammation condition is atopic asthma.

Claim 62 (previously presented): The method of claim 61 wherein the compound has the structure



Claim 63 (withdrawn): The method of claim 62 wherein R^1 and R^3 are -OH, R^2 is -H and R^4 is -OH or -SH.

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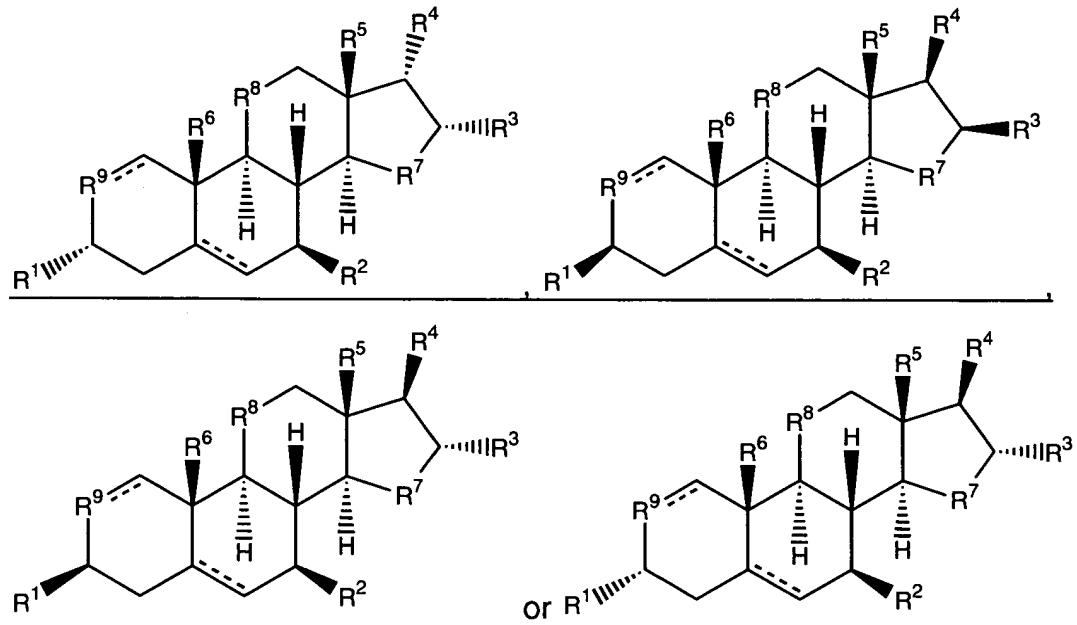
Claim 64 (previously presented): The method of claim 62 wherein R^1 , R^3 and R^4 are -OH and R^2 is -H.

15 Claim 65 (withdrawn): The method of claim 62 wherein R¹, R², R³ and R⁴ are -OH.

Claim 66 (currently amended): The method of claim 62 wherein the compound is $3\beta,7\beta,16\alpha,17\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, $3\alpha,7\beta,16\alpha,17\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, $3\beta,7\beta,16\beta,17\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 20 $3\beta,7\alpha,16\alpha,17\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, $3\beta,7\alpha,16\alpha,17\alpha$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, $3\beta,7\beta,16\alpha,17\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene, $3\alpha,7\beta,16\alpha,17\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene, $3\beta,7\beta,16\beta,17\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene, 25 $3\beta,7\alpha,16\alpha,17\beta$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, $3\beta,7\alpha,16\alpha,17\alpha$ -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, $3\beta,16\alpha,17\beta$ -trihydroxy- 5α -androstane, $3\alpha,16\alpha,17\alpha$ -trihydroxy- 5α -androstane, $3\alpha,16\beta,17\beta$ -trihydroxy- 5α -androstane or $3\beta,16\beta,17\beta$ -trihydroxy- 5α -androstane.

Claim 67 (withdrawn): The method of claim 66 wherein the compound is 3 α ,16 β ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane or 3 β ,16 β ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane.

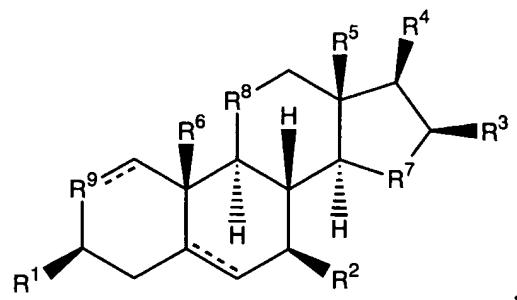
5 Claim 68 (withdrawn): A formulation comprising one or more excipients and a compound having the structure



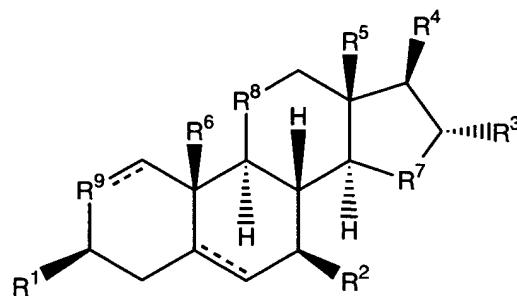
wherein, the dotted lines are optional double bonds;

10 R¹ is -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;
R² is -H, -OH, -SH, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;
R³ is -OH, =O, an ester, an ether, a thioester or a thioether;
R⁴ is -OH, -SH, =S, an ester an ether, a thioester or a thioether;
R⁵ is -CH₃ or -CH₂OH;
15 R⁶ is -H or -CH₃;
R⁷ is -CH₂- or -CHR¹⁰-;
R⁸ is -CH₂-, -O- or -NH-;
R⁹ is -CH₂-, -CHR¹⁰-, -O- or -NH-; and
R¹⁰ independently are -OH, an ester, an ether, -SH, a thioester, a thioether
20 or a halogen.

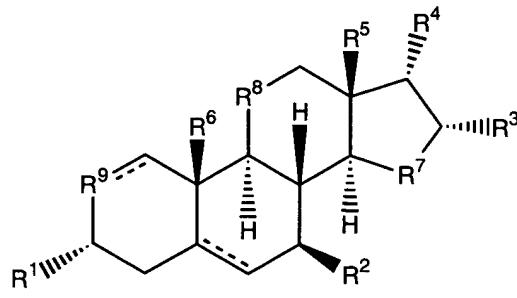
Claim 69 (withdrawn): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



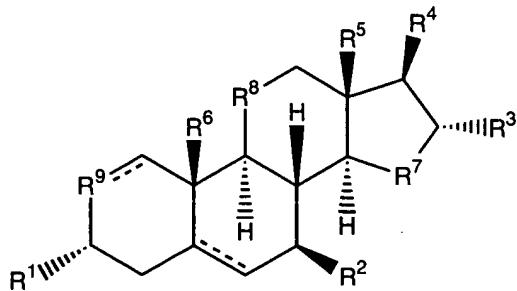
5 Claim 70 (withdrawn): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



10 Claim 71 (withdrawn): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



Claim 72 (withdrawn): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound has the structure



Claim 73 (withdrawn): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the compound is 3 β ,7 β ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 α ,7 β ,16 α ,17 β -

5 tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 β ,16 β ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 α ,16 α ,17 β -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,7 α ,16 α ,17 α -tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene, 3 β ,16 α ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane, 3 α ,16 α ,17 α -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane, 3 α ,16 β ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane or 3 β ,16 β ,17 β -trihydroxy-5 α -androstane.

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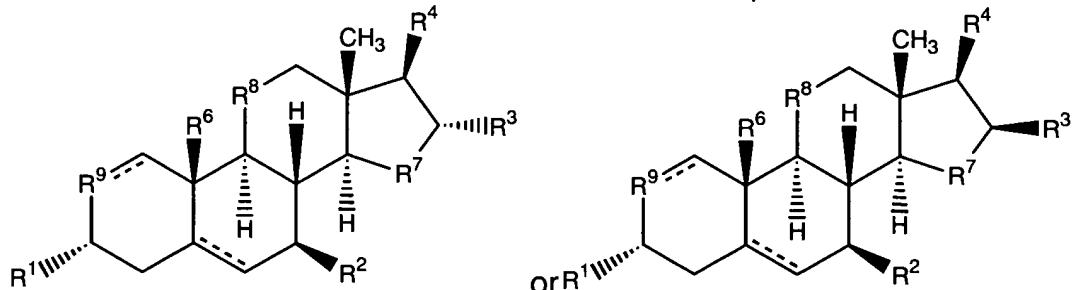
Claim 74 (withdrawn): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the formulation is a liquid for parenteral administration.

15 Claim 75 (withdrawn): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the liquid is a non-aqueous solution containing less than about 0.3% v/v water or a suspension in an aqueous liquid.

Claim 76 (withdrawn): The formulation of claim 68 wherein the formulation is a solid suitable for oral, buccal, sublingual or aerosol administration.

20

Claim 77 (previously presented): The method of claim 57 wherein the inflammation condition is atopic asthma and the compound has the structure



Claim 78 (previously presented): The method of claim 77 wherein R¹ is -OH, -SH, an ester or an ether and R⁴ is -OH, -SH, an ester or an ether.

Claim 79 (previously presented): The method of claim 78 wherein R² is -H, 5 -OH, -SH, an ester or an ether and R³ is -OH, -SH, an ester or an ether.

Claim 80 (previously presented): The method of claim 79 wherein R¹ is -OH or -SH, R² is -H, and R³ is -OH.

10 Claim 81 (previously presented): The method of claim 80 wherein R¹ and R⁴ are -OH.

Claim 82 (previously presented): The method of claim 81 wherein R⁷, R⁸ and R⁹ are -CH₂-.

15 Claim 83 (previously presented): The method of claim 80 wherein R⁶ is -CH₃.

Claim 84 (previously presented): The method of claim 83 wherein the 20 compound has the structure

